

Pension Application for Abraham Sprague

R.10005

State of New York

County of Delaware SS.

On this 8th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County of Delaware, now sitting Abraham Sprague a resident of the town of Hancock in the County of Delaware and State of New York aforesaid aged sixty seven years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was born in the Little Nine Partners in the County of Dutchess in the State of New York on the 19th day of October 1764 as he believes from information and a record in his possession that he removed from that place with his parents to Philipstown thence to [?] on the head of the Delaware river from whence they were driven by the Indians in the year 1778 that in the same year he enlisted in the army of the United States under Capt. Campbell [???] at Peekskill in Westchester Co., N. Y. in the month of June then between 13 and fourteen years of age that he enlisted for three years or during the war that the regiment was called the Congress or sometimes the bloody [?] and was commanded by Col. Moses Hazen the Majors were Torey Taylor & Reed. Adjutants Monning, a Lieut by the name of Stewarts acted as adjutant one campaign or season. That he soon marched from Peekskill to White Plains from thence to Danbury in Connecticut from thence to Hartford from thence back to Danbury for winter quarters. About this time Capt. Campbell (who had lost an arm) was promoted and was [?] in command of the company by Capt. Hughs from the State of Maryland. That on the 20th day of March 1779 he marched with the regiment then belonging to Gen. Poors Brigade from Danbury for Old Springfield thence to Northampton thence to Northfield thence to Charlestown thence by Hanover to Hoverhill when he with the regiment was employed during the summer in constructing a road Nygate toward Canada and in the fall went to winter quarters in Morristown New Jersey and joined Gen. Hans Brigade, while there during the winter a detachment of which he was one were ordered to destroy some huts wood to which belonged to the enemy on Staten [sic] Island which they affected without loss, that about this time he was chosen as one of the foot guards to Gen. Washington commanded by Major Livingston, through the month of June (he thinks) the guard in which he served as in the Battle of Elizabethtown N.J. that they were engaged with the right wing of the enemys army. That there was fighting at intervals and by detached parties for two or three days that a great many of his comrades in the guard were killed. I helped carry his Major Livingston from the field wounded and as he supposes mortally as he saw him no more, that he this deponent received a slight wound in the engagement that the guard was much reduced in point of numbers but were not disbanded until the fall of 1780 when he joined his former regiment and went into winter quarters at North Side Barracks Dutchess County N.Y.

That in the spring of 1781 about the first of April he received a furlough fro sixty days to visit he family for the first time since his joining the army he having heard that his father had been killed by the Indians which he afterwards found to be true, that he went home and while there and before the expiration of his furlough the regiments marched for the south and was at the taking of Cornwallis as he understood that at the expiration of his furlough he knew nothing of the fate of his regiment nor where to join it and that his 3 years was expired before he saw any of his officers or knew where to find them. That he had no discharge . That when in the guard he frequently saw Gen. Green, Lafayette, Adjt Gen. Scrammel, that during his service he was in three different Brigades (before joining the guard) commanded b Genl Clinton, of New York, & Henry Livingston, that he knew Capt. Saterly, Oliver, Lepain, Lloyd, Duncan, Pey, White, Barnard. Many other officer of the army. That he received 3 dollars of bounty money having 17 due as they told him and that there was fifteen months pay due him when his time expired that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Abraham Sprague
Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. C.B. Sheldon, Clerk

Letter in file dated May 8, 1925, replying to a request for information.

I have to advise you, from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, R.10005, it appears that Abraham Sprague was born October 19, 1764, in Little Nine Partners, Dutchess County, New York

He stated that he enlisted in June 1778 and served in Captains Campbell's and Hughs' Company, Colonel Moses Hazen's New York Regiment, was one of General Washington's, Foot Guards, was wounded at the battle of Elizabethtown and served until the spring of 1781, when he heard that his father (whose name is not given) had been killed by the Indians, he obtained a furlough, went home and never returned to his regiment.

He applied for pension October 8, 1832, while living in Hancock, Delavan [no such county in NY, must be Delaware] County, New York, but the Claim was not allowed, as it appeared from the rolls that he deserted and never after joined his regiment.

In 1852, his widow Mary is referred to. Date of marriage is not stated, nor is the date of soldier's death shown.